

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed on June 15, 2007. Claims 1-8 are now presented for examination. Claims 1-8 have been amended. Claim 1 is the only independent claim. Favorable review is respectfully requested.

The claims were objected to, on account of their including reference characters. The claims have been carefully reviewed and revised so that reference characters are enclosed in parentheses in accordance with MPEP § 608.01(m).

Claims 2-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 2-5 have been carefully reviewed and amended to ensure that all terms are recited with proper antecedent basis. In particular, amended claim 5 recites that an end of the twenty-second resistor (R21) connects with a negative input pin (2) of a fifth amplifier (IC10A), a first connection pin (11) of an integrating circuit chip (IC8D) and one end of a tenth capacitor (C21) in parallel. As clearly shown in Figure 8, three parallel branches lead from an end of R21: to the negative input of the amplifier, to one end of capacitor C21, and to the input pin 11 of chip IC8D. All of the claims now under consideration are believed to be in proper form and fully in compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Oda (U.S. Pat. No. 5,646,377). The applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 is patentably distinct from the cited art, for the following reasons.

Oda is understood to disclose a point detecting device which includes a processor, a signal generator, a signal detecting circuit, loop coils and loop coil switching units. In the device of Oda, signals are transmitted to, and received from, the loop coils. Whether a given loop coil is transmitting or receiving depends on the state of the switches (col. 16, lines 58-65). Oda teaches that the signal generator generates a sinusoidal wave, which is transmitted intermittently (e.g. for 32 μ sec), after which a loop coil is switched from transmitting to receiving (col. 18, lines 3-13). Oda also explicitly teaches that the processor sends a switching signal to switch a selected loop coil between transmitting and receiving (col. 18, lines 1-5). According to Oda, signal transmission and reception is

performed alternately using the switches of a loop coil (col. 20, lines 21-29, and Figure 8).

In contrast to the device of Oda, claim 1 recites an apparatus wherein an auxiliary CPU generates a square wave continuously, and a resonant signal is transmitted to a receiving circuit continuously. A square wave is clearly distinct from a sinusoid (see specification, page 2, lines 15-20, and Figure 2). Continuous signal transmission and reception is clearly distinct from switching between transmission and reception states (see specification, page 1, lines 19-26, and Figure 3). Oda clearly does not disclose continuous signal transmission; square wave signal transmission; or a continuous resonant signal, as required by claim 1.

Oda at one point mentions a “constant received signal” (col. 18, line 67, with reference to Figure 6). The subsequent discussion in the Oda patent (col. 19, lines 5-48; Table 1; and Figure 7) makes it clear that Oda is describing a relationship between phase (or level) of a received signal and a distance. Specifically, Oda describes a configuration of loop coils where the level and phase of the received signal are constant with respect to the distance between one end of the loop coil and the pointing device (see col. 18, lines 30-35). But even if a level and phase of a received signal are constant with respect to a distance, it does not follow that any signal is transmitted or received continuously (that is, not intermittently with respect to time). This discussion in Oda clearly is not a teaching of a continuous signal as recited by claim 1.

A rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 is proper only if every element in the claim is found in the cited reference. Since Oda does not disclose, or even suggest, the above-noted limitations of independent claim 1, claim 1 is not anticipated by that reference.

Claim 7, dependent from claim 1, was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oda in view of Wieczorek et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,557,076). Wieczorek et al. is understood to disclose a device with position detection area and a pointer. According to Wieczorek et al., the pointer includes a coil, capacitors, at least one diode, pressure sensors, switches and an integrated circuit. In the pointer of Wieczorek et al. (Figures 3 and 8), the coil is connected in parallel with only one capacitor, rather than a plurality of capacitors, and the integrated circuit connects with the pressure sensors and switches. Even if the pressure sensors were to be viewed as resistors, it should be noted

that none of the pressure sensors is in series with a switch. Furthermore, since the integrated circuit lies between the capacitors and the pressure sensors and switches, the capacitors do not directly connect with a series connection of a resistor and switch, as required by claim 7. As noted by the Examiner, Oda does not disclose or suggest these limitations regarding the pointer. Since the pointer of Wieczorek et al. likewise does not disclose or suggest these limitations, claim 7 is not rendered obvious by either of the references or by a combination of the references.

Claim 8, dependent from claim 7, was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oda in view of Kaye et al. (U.S. Pat. Application Pub. No. 2002/0056577). Claim 8 has been amended to depend from claim 7, and therefore includes the above-described limitations regarding the pen circuit. Kaye et al. does not disclose or suggest a pen circuit with an inductor, capacitors, a switch and a resistor connected in the manner recited in claim 7. Accordingly, claim 8 is not rendered obvious by Kaye et al., considered either alone or in combination with Oda.

The other claims in the present application are dependent from claim 1 and are believed to be patentable for the same reasons as discussed above. Since each dependent claim is deemed to define a separate aspect of the invention, however, consideration of each dependent claim on its merits is respectfully requested.

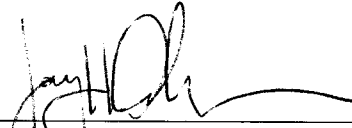
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicant respectfully requests favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the application.

No fee is believed to be due. The Commissioner nevertheless is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-1561 of Greenberg Traurig, LLP.

The applicant's attorney may be reached by telephone at 212-801-217. All

correspondence should continue to be directed to the address given below, which is the address associated with Customer Number 32361.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay H. Anderson", written over a horizontal line.

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Date: September 17, 2007

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